

Netherlands – EC-VPL and IVC den Helder

Institution	EC-VPL and IVC den Helder
Interviewed Person	Saleem (36), from Syria

I – Preparation

Saleem (36) was born in Drbasia in Syria. He is married and has a daughter. He has lived in the Netherlands for almost four years.

“In Syria I studied at a University. I am a computer science engineer, software manager. I have an international diploma”.

II – Awareness

“I have followed the pre VPL training “Spreek je Uit!” I enjoyed the training and considered it to be very important. I have learnt what the differences are between working in my own country and working in the Netherlands. I have also learnt about how to get a job in the Netherlands. I can receive more information here, it’s more social and less traditional. In Syria work is work and nothing else. I have more contacts with other people and my network has grown. I feel more comfortable speaking”.

III – Starting up

The “Spreek je Uit” training is a pre-VPL training that has been developed for newcomers who are not yet at the level needed to participate in the VPL training.

“I studied to become an engineer. This was my dream, what I wanted to achieve. I worked as an engineer for a year and a half before the war broke out. I have also worked as an English teacher at a high school”.

IV – Documentation and support

“I need further support, but following more of VPL training isn’t necessary due to my high education”.

V – Assessment

“I had an assessment in which I had to present myself. I have learned how to profile myself in my presentations. I made a PowerPoint presentation about my education and work experience. I didn’t find it difficult to present myself. I was relaxed and it went well. The training helped me achieve this. The assessment/my presentation was in Dutch”.

VI – Impact



WP2 – Op2.2: individual case studies

“The next step I want to take is to work in IT as a software manager. Of course I will learn a lot in formal and informal ways. At the moment I don’t want to follow any formal education other than my integration”.